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A.—(a) On the recommendation of the Secondary School-Leaving Certificate Advisory Text-Book Committee in Urdu.

(b) No; other things being equal, graduate teachers are preferred.

(c) No; the need for a separate and detailed syllabus in Grammar has not so far been felt.

Introduction of compulsory physical training in schools.

*1299 Q.—Mr. A. Kaleswara Rao: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) what steps are being taken to introduce compulsory physical training in schools;

(b) whether the Government propose to particularly encourage Indian gymnastics and Indian games in schools; and

(c) whether the Government propose to appoint a competent Indian gentleman as the Adviser for Physical Culture soon?

A.—(a) In secondary schools provision for physical training and games is regarded as an essential part of the curriculum and as a pre-condition of recognition by the Educational department. In elementary schools for boys physical training is a compulsory subject.

(b) The "Handbook on Physical Training" by A. G. Noehren, late Physical Adviser to Government, which is largely followed in schools, is based on Indian gymnastics, and encouragement is given both to Indian gymnastics and to Indian games.

(c) No such proposal is under the consideration of Government.

Recognition of non-communal schools in South Kanara.

*1300 Q.—Mr. K. R. Karant: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether he is aware that the non-Catholics in the district of South Kanara are reluctant to send their children to Catholic elementary schools;

(b) whether the District Educational Council is withholding recognition for schools of local bodies in villages where there are already existing Catholic schools;

(c) whether he proposes to see that the existence of a communal school does not prevent the starting of a non-communal school; and

(d) whether he is aware that Catholics as a rule are not permitted to attend non-Catholic schools and if so, whether he proposes to take steps to see that suitable facilities are afforded to non-Catholics to receive education in non-communal institutions, such as those of local bodies, and that the children of non-Catholics are not compelled to attend Catholic schools against their wishes by refusing recognition for non-communal schools?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The Government are not aware of any instances in which the District Educational Council has withheld recognition for local board schools in villages where there are already Catholic schools.

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(c) Under the Elementary Education Act, the power of recognition vests in the District Educational Council and an appeal lies to the Director of Public Instruction.

(d) It is understood that Roman Catholics are not ordinarily permitted to attend non-Catholic schools. Recognition has not been refused to non-communal aided schools started in places where there are communal schools. Local bodies are not as a rule advised to open schools in places where there are already recognized Catholic or non-Catholic schools.

Mr. J. A. Saldanha :—" May I enquire whether, where there are two schools one a Catholic school and another non-Catholic school which is either a Government or local board school, it is a fact that as a rule the Catholic school is preferred even by Hindus ?"

The hon. Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—" I am authorized to answer this, Sir. It is left to the discretion of the parents concerned."

Mr. J. A. Saldanha :—" The answer given by Government is not according to facts. May I know if it is a fact ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—" Correct so far as our information goes."

Mr. J. A. Saldanha :—" My question is whether it is correct."

The hon. Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—" I have no reason to doubt it."

Commercial and industrial schools in the Presidency.

* 1301 Q.—K. P. V. S. Muhammad Meera Ravuttar Bahadur: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) how many commercial and industrial schools are now in existence in this Presidency managed by the Government and private agencies and where ;

(b) how many students are studying in each institution ;

(c) the amount spent by the Government for each Government institution ; and

(d) the amount spent by the Government by way of grant-in-aid for each of the institutions managed by private agencies ?

A.—(a) to (d) The hon Member is referred to subsidiary table A No. 6 (b) appended to the Report on Public Instruction in the Madras Presidency for the year 1925–26, Volume II, and to Appendices I and II to the Report of the Department of Industries, Madras, for the year 1926–27 which have been placed on the Editors' Table.

Subsidies to local bodies for secondary schools.

* 1302 Q.—Mr. A. B. Shetty : With reference to the answer to question No. 102 answered on 24th August 1927, will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether any departmental rules based on certain accepted principles have been framed in dealing with the question of subsidies to local bodies for secondary schools ;